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Carson Announces Funding to the Spring Valley Volunteer Fire Department FEMA awards \$60,675 for Equipment

Washington, D.C. --

Second District Congressman (D-OK) announced that the Spring Valley Fire Department received \$60,675 from FEMA's Assistance to Firefighter Grant program. The grant will be used to purchase ten sets of rope and swiftwater rescue gear and equipment to outfit the department's vehicles. The grant was awarded in the sixth round of funding. FEMA anticipates there will be a total of twenty rounds of announcements to distribute the \$360 million Congress has authorized for this year's program.

Congressman Carson was personally involved in this year's award. He worked with the department to develop the application, and wrote a letter to FEMA strongly supporting the application.

This is the second year Spring Valley has received a FEMA grant. Last year, the department was awarded \$60,546 for personal protective equipment.

"I am incredibly pleased to announce this grant to Spring Valley," Congressman Brad Carson said. "Volunteer firefighters provide a tremendous service to communities across our state, and it is vital they have the necessary equipment and training to perform their duties. The FEMA Fire grant has been a valuable resource to fire departments. I have made providing for our fire departments a top priority in Congress, and I will continue to ensure this program is fully funded."

Congressman Carson has strongly championed this grant program. In March 2002, he sponsored a grant workshop in every county he represents to provide assistance to fire departments in applying for this program. Over one hundred fire departments attend the fifteen workshops. Last year, fifteen departments in the second district received over \$500,000. Through the sixth round of announcements of this year, fifteen departments have received \$547,143 in Congressman Carson's district.

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